

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA
BILLINGS DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CHRISTOPHER LEE WIDNER,

Defendant.

CR 22–21–BLG–DLC

ORDER

Before the Court is the United States’ Unopposed Motion for Issuance of a Preliminary Order of Forfeiture. (Doc. 24.) The operative indictment in this case contains a forfeiture allegation, and on April 25, 2022, Mr. Widner was adjudged guilty as charged in that indictment. This conviction provides a factual basis and cause to issue a forfeiture order, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 924(d).

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that the motion (Doc. 24) is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. Widner’s interest in the following property is forfeited to the United States, in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 924(d):

- Hipoint C9 Pistol CAL:9 SN:P1858882 Model CPX-2, 9mm caliber pistol (serial number C167874);
- One Round of Unknown Ammunition CAL:9; and
- 55 Rounds Assorted Ammunition CAL:9.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the United States is authorized and

ordered to seize the property described above and further to make a return as provided by law. The property is to be held by the United States in its secure custody and control.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n)(1), the United States forthwith shall publish at least once for three successive weeks in a suitable means of general circulation notice of this Order, notice of the United States' intent to dispose of the property in such manner as the Attorney General may direct, and notice that any person, other than the defendant, having or claiming a legal interest in the above-listed forfeited property must file a petition with the Court within thirty (30) days of the final publication of notice or of receipt of actual notice, whichever is earlier. This notice shall state that the petition shall be for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the petitioner's alleged interest in the property, shall be signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury, and shall set forth the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title, or interest in the forfeited property and any additional facts supporting the petitioner's claim and the relief sought. The United States may also, to the extent practical, provide direct written notice to any person known to have alleged an interest in the property that is the subject of the preliminary order of forfeiture, as a substitute for published notice as to those persons so notified.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon adjudication of all third-party interests, if any, this Court will enter a final order of forfeiture, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n), in which all interests will be addressed.

DATED this 25th day of April, 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dana L. Christensen", is written over a horizontal line.

Dana L. Christensen, District Judge
United States District Court